

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-8 and 13-15 have previously been cancelled. Claims 9 and 16 are currently being amended. Claims 10 and 17 are currently being cancelled. Claims 11 and 12 are carried forward, all as follows:

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) A longitudinal folding device comprising:

a machine frame;

a longitudinal folding hopper supported by said machine frame, said longitudinal folding hopper having a hopper insertion plate and at least first and second hopper flank plates ~~flanks~~, said at least first and second hopper flank plates ~~flanks~~ receiving paper webs electrically interlocked in a paper web train passing through said longitudinal folding hopper;

a hopper guide ~~paper deflection~~ device supported by said machine frame, said hopper guide ~~paper deflection~~ device including an upper cover plate and left and right guide devices, said upper cover plate and said left and right guide devices being spaced from, and enclosing said hopper insertion plate and said first and second hopper flank plates of said longitudinal folding hopper device;

a high voltage source having different polarities, said different polarities being connected to said longitudinal folding hopper and to said hopper guide ~~paper deflection~~ device, said different polarities connected to said longitudinal folding hopper and to said hopper guide device being matched to charges applied to adjacent webs of the electrically

interlocked paper web train for supporting said paper web train between said longitudinal folding hopper and said hopper guide device; and

electrically insulating means supporting said hopper guide ~~paper deflection~~ device on said machine frame to electrically insulate said hopper guide ~~paper deflection~~ device from said machine frame.

Claim 10 (Cancelled).

11. (Previously presented) The longitudinal folding device of claim 9 wherein said longitudinal folding hopper has a hopper projection.

12. (Previously presented) The longitudinal folding device of claim 9 further including first and second hopper folding rollers, said hopper folding rollers being rotatably supported by, and electrically insulated from said machine frame.

Claims 13 -15 (Cancelled).

16. (Currently amended) The longitudinal folding device of claim 9 further including means electrically interlocking said paper webs, said paper web electrical interlocking means being located before, in a direction of paper web travel, said longitudinal folding hopper.

Claim 17 (Cancelled).